

BASCOM LEE FIELD

"Almost immediately after the start Lieut. Bascom L. Field was killed by shell fire and several of his platoon wounded.

"Sergeant First Class Hampton Morgan assumed command and proceeded with the work."

WHICH is all the records have to say about the matter. Merely a sentence. One of most popular men in a famous regiment and an officer. War however recognizes—apparently—no individuality.

And yet Bascom L. Field, First Lieutenant of Company "D," 105th Engineers of the United States Army had spent the greater part of his 28 years training himself to be an Engineer; that highest exponent of civilized peace. Thousands of dollars had been spent to enable him intelligently to do constructive useful things.

He had been a leader among men mentally, morally, and in accomplishment at one of the foremost universities of the United States. Year after year he had patiently and lastingly shaped his life to make it produce for mankind—to serve and build.

With the training period over and with an apprenticeship served out with honor—with brain and body shaped for construction, just ready to repay his debt to himself and to a social organization which had helped produce him he was "killed by shell fire."

War, reckless prodigal of things, men and beauty, blotted him out without pause and whirled on to one